



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC CHANGES ON-THE-RECORD PRESENTATION DATE IN CASS COUNTY TELEPHONE EARNINGS INVESTIGATION CASE

Jefferson City (March 31, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has changed the schedule for the on-the-record presentation to receive additional information from various parties regarding the proposed agreement in an earnings investigation case involving the Cass County Telephone Company.

Originally scheduled for May 5, 2004, the Commission is now scheduled to hold the on-the-record presentation, **starting at 2:00 pm on April 19, 2004.** The Commission's order states: "The Commission wishes to consider the stipulation and agreement as soon as possible so that, if the stipulation and agreement is approved, the customers of Cass County Telephone can quickly receive the benefits of reduced rates. For that reason, the Commission will move the date for the on-the-record presentation from May 5 to April 19."

The on-the-record presentation will be held in the Commission's offices located in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. This on-the-record presentation will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this on-the-record presentation, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the on-the-record presentation.

On February 5, 2004, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel and Cass County Telephone Company filed an agreement which purports to resolve the PSC Staff's investigation into the Cass County Telephone Company's earnings by reducing the Company's annual revenues by approximately \$320,000. The agreement calls for a reduction in the access rates that long distance carriers pay to the Cass County Telephone Company for access to their network to complete a long distance call. In addition, the agreement calls for a reduction in the monthly Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) plan rate for subscribing customers in Tier 4 and Tier 5 exchanges. The residential rate for Tier 4 subscribing customers would be reduced from \$21.55 a month to \$20.00 a month under the agreement. In Tier 5 exchanges, the residential rate for subscribing customers would drop from \$32.50 a month to \$28.27 a month. The agreement also reduces rates for certain services used in the provisioning of 911 service.

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